

# IRATE MOTHERS RENEW BATTLE WITH STATE OVER CROSSWALKS

## Fire Department in New Station

28,650

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# COMPULSORY RABIES LAW ADOPTED



(Herald Photo)

**READY FOR CENSUS . . .** Special Census Supervisor Elijah B. Lewis (seated) goes over maps with Planning Secretary George Powell prior to opening a special census of Torrance. Lewis will open his headquarters at the Civil Defense Building, 1754 Torrance Blvd., today, and begin the task of selecting about 100 enumerators for the huge task of tabulating the city's population. City officials expect the figure to reach 65,000.

## Census to Start Here Next Week

Special Census Supervisor Elijah B. Lewis will open his headquarters today at 1754 Torrance Blvd. and begin interviewing prospective enumerators prior to conducting the third special census in Torrance since 1950.

About 100 enumerators will be needed for the task.

Lewis decided Tuesday during a visit to the city. He said applications still will be taken at the census headquarters beginning today. Those already having applications pending will be called for an interview if eligible, he said.

A class for enumerators will be organized as soon as the recruiting has been completed, probably Saturday, and actual enumerating of the Torrance residents will begin at the end of the class work. The count will be started Monday at the latest, Lewis said.

Lewis stressed that personal information obtained by the enumerators was strictly confidential and would not be released under any circumstances. The figures are compiled for statistical purposes only, and that only figures pertaining to total population, number in each sex and race, and other similar data would be released.

Anyone planning to be out of the city during the next three weeks may leave the census information in a sealed envelope.

## Thieves Get Checks In Burglary of Car

Someone broke into his car and stole a briefcase containing 115 blank checks and uncashed checks worth over \$1400, Richard E. Garner, of 17038 Falda Ave., told sheriff's deputies Monday.

He was on business for Garner Brothers Tile Co., of Lawndale, and his car was parked near Palos Verdes Dr. North and Western Ave. at the time of the break-in, he said. Value of the briefcase and contents was about \$40.

## Petitions Force Vote On Issue

City Councilmen voted 3-2 this week to adopt a compulsory rabies inoculation ordinance for Torrance following the lead of other South Bay cities with such laws.

Following a stormy discussion on the matter during which one Hollywood opponent of the law had to be silenced twice by Police Chief Haslam, the Council approved the ordinance as prepared by City Attorney James M. Hall. Voting against the measure were Councilmen Willys G. Blount and Nick Drale.

Key votes on the matter was that of Councilman Mervin M. Schwab who had voted against the measure previously. He said that the heavy demand of the public indicated to him that the people of Torrance wanted the law. Petitions bearing more than 1490 names asking for the law had been filed with the Council.

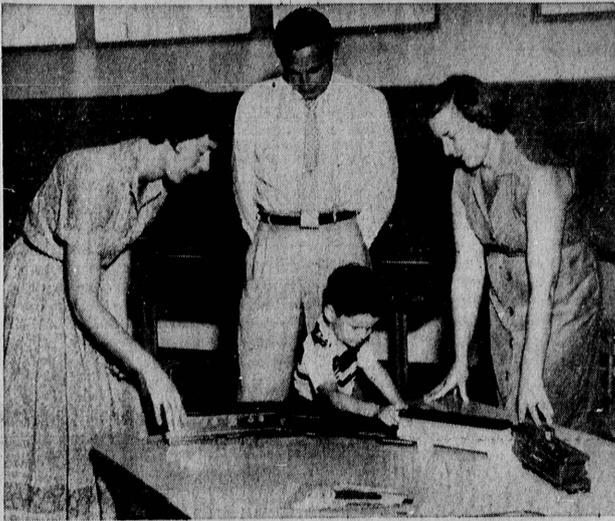
Discussions quashed. Efforts of opponents of the ordinance to speak against it were quashed after the Council voted to limit discussion to members of the Council and to those in the audience asked specific questions by Councilmen.

"We've all been through this at length and I can see no need to go through it again," Mayor Albert Isen said when asking for the limited discussion.

Charges that the matter was being "railroaded" were hurled by members of the audience and by opponents on the Council. Drale had immediately asked for time to study the new ordinance which had just been presented to the Council.

His motion to delay action on the matter was defeated. At several points in the meet-

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(Herald Photo)

**A CLEAN SLATE . . .** As the schools began a new term yesterday, a new teacher and new principal helped to get at least one new student off to a good start at a new school. At Steele School, Teacher Joyce Kerin and Principal Roland Petrat showed Dennis Baracatman some of the interesting kindergarten toys, while his mother, Mrs. Earl Barackman, of 4707 Narrot St., looked on anxiously.

## City Fire Department In New Central Station

Central Fire Department Headquarters is officially "at home" in the new station at Carson and Crenshaw today after the move to the new station was completed here Tuesday. Firemen moved into the station officially about 1:30 p.m., Monday, when the telephone and radio circuits were switched over to the new, modern headquarters.

The move was completed when all of the trucks, the officer's cars, and the pumpers

were moved to the new station in a convoy, led by Fire Chief J. J. Benner.

Workers were still busy in the building laying down stair pads, title landings, and other last minute items, but the building was given final approval by the building department with a short list of charges to be cared

for after the department took over.

"This is just like moving into a new home," Chief Benner said. He had spent more than a quarter of a century in the old building downtown.

Completion of the new No. 4 station at Calle Mayor and Pacific Coast Hwy. is scheduled later this month.



(Herald Photo)

**FIREMEN ON THE MOVE . . .** Torrance Firemen Tuesday backed their central station trucks into the new station at Crenshaw and Carson St. for the first time completing the move shortly after 1:30 p.m. An open house for the public is

being planned by the department for next month, according to Chief J. J. Benner. The old central station adjacent to the city hall will be taken over by the building department.

## Traffic Blocked By Human Chain

Fearful for the safety of their children, about 35 mothers of children in Meadow Park School, formed a human chain to block off traffic on Hawthorne Blvd. at 230th St., yesterday.

Last spring, mothers also blocked off traffic at the busy intersection to aid the crossing guard in getting children from their homes to school, which lies on the west side of Hawthorne Blvd. on 230th St.

The mothers said they would continue to block off the intersection as their children cross the street until some action is taken in the matter.

The children who must cross the street live in a tract between Sepulveda Blvd. and 229th St. and between Madrona Ave. and Madison St., about seven-eighths of a mile from the school.

The mothers feel that a traffic signal, or at least warning signs and a more easily visible yellow crosswalk should be provided. Before they blocked off traffic last spring, there was no crosswalk at the intersection.

At this point, Hawthorne is a four-lane highway, with a 55-mile-per-hour speed limit.

Children must cross the street to get to school at the busiest times for traffic — 7:30 a.m., noon, and 4 p.m.—the mothers said.

A classroom poll taken yesterday at Meadow Park School indicated that between 180 and 200 students must cross Hawthorne to get to classes, according to Principal Herbert Farris.

Although some mothers in the area had threatened to keep their children out of school until the situation is corrected, all apparently reported Wednesday, Farris said.

Many mothers in the area have organized a shuttle service to take their children by car, since school buses do not take children to school where the distance is less than 1.25 miles.

Mothers claimed they had been given a run-around when trying to get something done about the situation. Since Hawthorne is a state highway, any responsibility for crossing

signals belongs to the state, according to city officials.

Principal Farris said he had been informed that the city of Torrance has no jurisdiction over the area, because it is a state highway. He was informed, he said, by Mr. Hutchinson of the State Division of Highways that the state could not put a yellow cross walk there, because the school property line is approximately 25 yards from the intersection.

A state survey, which mothers claim was made on a rainy day, when many of them drove their children to school, showed that only 66 children crossed the road. This was not enough to warrant additional protection, state officials said. Another survey is planned, Farris was told.

Warren Hamilton, director of special services for the schools, said that he had been informed by the State Division of Highways that white crossing signs and pedestrian crossing signs would be painted or repainted at the intersection, as the situation required. This is nearly completed, he was told.

The schools can do nothing, he said, because legislation which would have transferred control of students enroute to school from traffic to school jurisdiction was defeated.

Action by the same mothers last year resulted in the filling of a mud hole at 230th and Samuel Sts., through which the children had to travel on their way to school. At present, there is a mud hole at the corner of 230th and Madison Sts., on the same route.

At El Nido School, where mothers last spring blocked off traffic at 186th and Hawthorne Blvd. to get action on protecting their children, the state has painted yellow lines and no complaints have been heard this fall.

## NEW TRUCK ROUTE SET IN RIVIERA

A compromise solution to the squabble between Hollywood Riviera resident and Developer Henry Kissel was apparently reached in pre-and-post-council meetings at the City Hall Tuesday night.

Residents had protested the heavy flow of construction trucks flowing by their homes and by Riviera School, as trucks went up Calle Mayor via Los Miradores, and Avenida Atzada. At the meetings, Kissel agreed to urge sub-contractors to follow a new route, using wider streets and avoiding school.

The route will follow Pacific Coast Hwy. to Catalina, travel up Via Monte D'Oro, to Calle de Arboles, and east to the tract. Suggested plans for crossing guard apparently were dropped.

At the same time, the council passed an ordinance requiring all trucks over 2½ tons to travel 10 miles an hour in the area and authorized Police Chief Willard Haslam to place necessary regulatory signs. A stop sign will be posted at Calle Mayor and Via Los Altos.

Robert Jahn, representing residents at the meeting, urged that an access road be built to the new tract, for use of construction equipment. The new road will be built as soon as possible, Kissel said, and materials for the next 235-home addition will be brought up that way. Construction of the new road would take about three months, it was indicated.

## 15,000 Students Return to School

Some 15,000 youngsters hopped, skipped, ran, ambled, and in a few cases, were dragged back to school yesterday, as the local schools began their fall term.

Complete attendance figures were not available, but officials estimated that more than 15,000 school children again began the fall term.

Torrance High School boasted the highest enrollment in the district, with some 1350 students attending classes there. At North High School, where workmen are still putting the finishing touches on the new building, some 1275 students had enrolled.

**All Goes Smoothly**  
According to Principal Dale M. Harter, "things went more smoothly than expected."

Students had to skirt construction equipment and trash and had to hunt for rooms, which as yet, have no numbers painted on them. Due to a strike of flooring employees, five of the rooms in an east wing are not completed, but should be ready as soon as the strike is settled.

Workmen were still putting tar and gravel on some of the

classrooms in use, and a few of the buildings were still being painted, but school began on schedule.

Sack lunches and milk were provided for students, since a cafeteria is not yet in operation.

The gymnasium and music building facilities at the school will not be ready for about six weeks.

**Still Unpacking**  
At Steele Elementary School, Principal Roland Petrat reported that first-day operations were proceeding smoothly, with about 965 students enrolled. Teachers and employees were still unpacking a few items, but classes began on schedule. The school opened with double sessions through the fourth grade. Newton School opened for the

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